

MARYLAND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE

FISCAL YEAR 2025 CAPITAL BUDGET HEARING RESPONSE TO DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES ANALYSIS

House Appropriations Committee Capital Budget Subcommittee The Honorable Mark Chang, Chair February 26, 2024

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee Capital Budget Subcommittee Senator Craig Zucker, Chair February 27, 2024

We first would like to thank Ms. Carrie Cook and the entire DLS team for their thorough work on the MES Operating and Capital Budgets. Ms. Cook has been fantastic to work with. We greatly appreciate her professionalism and attention to detail throughout the budget development process.

GO Bond Recommended Actions: Approve the \$570,000 in general obligation bond authorization for the State Water and Sewer Infrastructure Improvement Fund.

MES Concurs.

State Water and Sewer Infrastructure Improvement Fund Projects.

The FY 2025 Capital Budget includes \$11.4 million in nonbudgeted funds for this Fund that will support capital improvements for water and wastewater facilities owned by the Department of Natural Resources. These are critical improvements to facilities located at State Parks. These projects exemplify the Moore-Miller Administration's commitment to enhance the environment through treatment plant upgrades and the use of green technology. These construction projects will also bring added opportunities for contractors and MBEs to further stimulate the economy. We expect these enhancements to ultimately attract additional visitors, which will in turn further stimulate the economy. We strongly urge the Committee to support fully funding these projects.